

Mathematical Reflections

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The problems in this investigation asked you to think about *patterns* relating the values of *variables*. These questions will help you to summarize what you have learned.

Think about your answers to these questions. Discuss your ideas with other students and your teacher. Then write a summary of your findings in your notebook.

1. Explain what the word *variable* means in mathematics.
2. What does it mean to say that two variables are related?
3. **a.** Suppose the y -values increase as the x -values increase. How is this indicated in a table? How is this indicated in a graph?
b. Suppose the y -values decrease as the x -values increase. How is this indicated in a table? How is this indicated in a graph?
4. In a coordinate graph of two related variables, when does it make sense to connect the points?